

for the moral forces of mankind. Other statesmen here hold the view that the present plan may materially lessen the chance of war, but will go no further. The President has told his friends here that it is his duty now to educate the American public, and he is going home with this object.

According to present plans the executive council of the league, its supreme directing agency, will be few in number, consisting of not more than nine and not less than seven members, five being representatives of the great Powers, the smaller nations having either two or four; so much already has been decided.

**Three Methods Are Proposed.**

The French idea was that the size and membership of the executive council should be determined by all the members of the league in a plenary session; the British suggested that the council should be limited to the five great Powers, the little nations being called in when matters affecting them were up for consideration. The President is understood to have advocated a council of nine, including four representatives of the smaller nations, and that three negative votes should defeat any resolution, thus giving the small nations a power greater than their numerical representation. Final action will be a compromise on the Wilson plan.

The council will sit continuously at some place in Switzerland. Geneva already has put in her claim and is likely to be selected.

The President now plans to leave France for the United States on February 14 or 15, after one more plenary session of the Peace Congress. The chances are lessening that the Committee on the League of Nations will finish its labors by that time. President Wilson, Premier Lloyd George and A. J. Balfour, the British Foreign Secretary, held a meeting yesterday, at which they took up the question of the conduct of the conference during the absence of the President and the British Prime Minister.

**Return in Month Promised.**

The President told Premier Lloyd George that he would return as soon as possible, giving the impression that he might be gone less than four weeks in Washington. The British Premier will be absent most of this time.

It was decided that plenary sessions of the Peace Congress might be held in their absence, with Secretary Balfour and Secretary Lansing heading the British and American missions, but the committees would not report until the President and the British Prime Minister had returned. The President will be here when the Germans are called in. Their stiffening attitude is convincing many that this phase of the negotiations will be protracted and troublesome.

It developed today that Japan is taking no part in the discussions in the meetings of the council of ten in any matters affecting only Europe.

### AGREEMENT REACHED ON LEAGUE FUNCTION

**France and Italy Block Abandonment of Conception.**

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, Feb. 7.—Substantially one-half of the draft of the constitution for the Society of Nations has been covered by the conference committee dealing with this question. It was officially announced today. In approving a number of additional articles of the draft the committee reached an agreement today on certain questions of the greatest importance concerning the positive functions of the league. The acceptance was provisional.

Premier Venizelos of Greece, Premier Karamanoglou of Bulgaria, M. Dmowski of Poland and M. Dmowski of Rumania sat as members of the League of Nations committee, representing their respective nations.

While important details of the society's constitution still remain to be agreed upon and are likely to take up the time of several additional sessions of the committee the fact that more than half of the draft has been passed over and unanimously adopted, including an agreement upon the main general principles, has raised expectations that the draft will be ready for submission to the general Peace Conference early next week.

**President May See Acceptance.**

Should this prove to be the case it might be possible to obtain action upon it before President Wilson's departure for the United States.

The official statement regarding the fourth meeting of the committee last night reads as follows:

The fourth meeting of the Commission of the League of Nations met at 8:30 o'clock last evening at the Hotel de Crillon. Messrs. Karamanoglou, Venizelos, Dmowski, and Dmowski (Monday), representing respectively the Czechoslovak Republic, Greece, Poland and Rumania, took up their duties as members of the committee. The commission provisionally approved a number of additional articles to the draft. The approval of these articles marks an important step in the work of the committee. The commission provisionally approved a number of additional articles to the draft. The approval of these articles marks an important step in the work of the committee.

**Conscription Not Forbidden.**

President Wilson presided at last night's meeting. The only article not approved was the paragraph concerning abolition of compulsory military service unless required by reasons of national defense under extraordinary circumstances. Premier Orlando of Italy opposed the paragraph, remarking that conscription once was abolished an attempt to revive it might lead to serious trouble, even a revolution.

Leon Bourgeois, one of the French members, joined Premier Orlando in strongly opposing its abolition. He asserted that France, owing to her geographical position, needs a standing army and never could consent to strip herself of her defenses. The paragraph was then cancelled and it was decided to leave to each country freedom to select a system of recruiting its troops up to the amount of troops which will be fixed later by the Society of Nations.

Another article which caused animated discussion was that concerning the

### WILSON MAY BRING LEAGUE PLAN DRAFT

**Hope Expressed Commission Will Decide Principles Before He Leaves for U. S.**

**MORE PUBLICITY NEEDED**

**London "Times" Says Present System Is Inadequate to Form World Opinion.**

Special Wireless Despatch to The Sun from the London Times Service.

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PARIS, Feb. 7.—The League of Nations Commission seems to be making little progress and the hope is not dwindling that President Wilson will have some sort of official announcement of principles to take to the United States next week. The procedure of the commission is to take up one by one the clauses of the draft before it, the general terms of which are understood to be already published. Sometimes a clause is put over for further discussion, especially respecting those nations whose public opinion is in preparation of the acceptance of the league than those of the British Empire and the United States.

**Secret Treaties in Danger.**

Secret treaties made under the stress of war and which may be considered out of harmony with the principles of which a Society of Nations is being formed, are a subject of serious concern. The American delegates, at least, have said that such agreements in so far as they are in conflict with the principles of a society of nations must give way.

Some other Powers, while not openly depending upon these arrangements, have reserved their decision as to their final attitude until the committee has decided the existing controversies and of avoiding unpleasant scenes in the final meetings before the departure of President Wilson. The President's efforts are being made by influential persons to compose the differences between the individual States. The efforts are not so remarkably harmonious in the Russian problem again has come to the fore in connection with the acceptance by the Moscow Bolshevik Government of the league, which is the condition on the "Princes' Islands." In some quarters the action of the Moscow Government has been hailed with satisfaction and relief, while others have given an immediate termination of Bolshevik attacks on the little allied army in the Archangel sector.

**Dalmatian Dispute Lessens.**

As the result of direct exchange between Premier Orlando of Italy and Premier Pridemore of Yugoslavia, it was stated today that the differences between the two countries regarding the Dalmatian coast, which have been an acute problem, probably will soon be amicably adjusted.

Representatives of both nations, Premier Orlando for Italy and M. Trumbitch, the Jugo-Slav Foreign Minister, were in conference with President Wilson yesterday, when it was stated that an effort was being made by the President to mediate between the two nations for the purpose of aiding them to reach an agreement for the settlement of their Dalmatian dispute, regarding Albania, Fiume, Istria and Dalmatia.

### MONTENEGRO'S KING FEARS SERB PERIL

**Minister Appeals to Peace Conference for Recognition.**

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, Feb. 7.—King Nicholas of Montenegro in a proclamation to his people charges the present Serbian administration with conspiring to defeat Montenegro's legitimate aspirations to become a member of the Jugo-Slav federation.

Simultaneously with the issuance of the proclamation, Dr. Peter Chotich, acting Minister of Foreign Affairs for Montenegro, today sent an appeal to the Peace Conference declaring that Montenegro is besieged by Serbia and that its vital interests are being ignored by the Peace Conference.

Dr. Chotich demands to be informed how long Montenegro will be compelled to suffer the Serbian yoke, since the early days of the war Montenegro has been treated like an outcast, outside the pale of the law, and that it is now left a prey to the imperialistic and dynastic ambitions of Serbia. He states that Montenegro's rights shall be heard at the Peace Conference and demands a seat at the conference.

**Accuses Serbia of Hatred.**

The proclamation of King Nicholas says that the King has been gravely disappointed in many respects in his faith in the Allies. The proclamation accuses Serbia of hatred toward Montenegro and its official representatives. The King says that Serbia forgets the sacrifices Montenegro made in taking up the sword in defense of Serbia's threatened liberty in the first year of the war.

**Not on Throne by Force.**

In conclusion King Nicholas says that his house did not ascend the Montenegrin throne by force, nor will he continue to occupy it, if such occupation would jeopardize the interest of his country and the Jugo-Slav people.

**TO TRAIN MEN FOR ARMY JOBS.**

Baker Asks Fund to Educate Officers for Technical Tasks.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Secretary Baker submitted to Congress today legislation to be included in the new military appropriation bill making it possible for the War Department to employ and train men for technical positions in its various bureaus and branches.

By the terms of the provision 2 percent of the officers of a bureau might be sent to college or commercial institutions to be trained abroad at the department's expense to specialize in these subjects, while another would permit various special services of the army to obtain service of prominent technical men as instructors.

### CHINA SAYS JAPAN IS TRYING COERCION

**Efforts Under Way at Peking to Hamstring Her Peace Envoys, Is Charge.**

**GOVERNMENT DEPRESSED**

**Situation Made Worse by Pressing Need of Loan From Neighbor Empire.**

By the Associated Press.

PEKING, Feb. 5 (delayed).—Attempts are being made by the Japanese to induce the Chinese Government to disavow the action of its delegates at the Peace Conference for the reason that they are seriously embarrassing Japan, according to semi-official Chinese sources here.

This development has caused depression in Government circles, which had previously been jubilant over the strong stand taken by the Chinese in relation to the Japanese claims. This depression is intensified by the fact that the Government is hard pressed for money and may, it is said, yield to the Japanese wishes to obtain the needed funds.

**By the Associated Press.**

PARIS, Feb. 7.—Baron Nohumi Makino, the senior Japanese delegate to the Peace Conference, has prepared for public information a document which will be issued regarding Japan's position at the Peace Conference respecting questions in the Far East.

Japan does not come to the conference with demands, the statement says, "but is asking only those things which appear just to us in the light of Japan's position and future in the Far East. At the outset I desire to state that since Japan opened her doors to foreign intercourse, trade and political exchanges, all treaties and engagements entered into with other countries have been kept in good faith in the Japanese mind, and with regard for the good name of the nation and the rights of others."

**How Germany Worked.**

In 1918, the document continues, Germany, under pretext of compensation for the murder of German sailors, gradually spreading her tentacles all over China. Germany obtained concession after concession, and collecting huge sums as indemnity for the boxer rebellion and the propaganda of ill will, aiming always at the weakening of the influence of other nations in the Far East and adding fresh fuel to the fire of antagonism between Japan and Germany.

Throughout the last twenty years Germany had more and more firmly established herself in Shantung province, and the statement says, "and gradually spreading her tentacles all over China. Germany obtained concession after concession, and collecting huge sums as indemnity for the boxer rebellion and the propaganda of ill will, aiming always at the weakening of the influence of other nations in the Far East and adding fresh fuel to the fire of antagonism between Japan and Germany."

It is not enough that the leading delegates of the British and Americans do, hold meetings with representatives of the press. Such meetings are nearly useless with the inevitable result of giving the press a false impression. It is not too much to say the whole future of civilization depends to a large extent upon whether the press is responsible for the truth or for the lies. The United States and Britain can be thought to feel a regard for the well being of the world. That sense of responsibility can only be got by intelligent publicity.

**GIFTS NOT SENT TO KING.**

**Money Went to Arabia for Military Use, Say Allies.**

PARIS, Feb. 7.—A semi-official denial was issued today with regard to imputations that the King of the Hellenes had been "subventing from Great Britain for taking part in the war."

It was stated that any payments made to the King by the Allies were purely for military purposes in order to supply the King's power, which had a great part in the overthrow and the defeat of the German army.

**Paris to Open Food Depots.**

**Necessaries Will Be Sold Direct to Consumers.**

PARIS, Feb. 7.—Municipal barracks stores will be erected soon throughout Paris in which foodstuffs will be sold direct by the city to consumers. Premier Clemenceau has ordered that the city should be supplied with necessities of life and remedies to be applied that this action would be taken.

**Wants Northern Islands.**

"We contend, and shall continue to contend, that Japan should control the islands north of the equator, and that the future of the wild tribes inhabiting the islands is not for her to enter into a relation in detail of the services we rendered to her."

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